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**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8406**

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**State of Washington**

**58th Legislature**

**2003 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Kohl-Welles, Carlson and Winsley

Read first time 02/27/2003. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1       WHEREAS, The higher education coordinating board is directed in  
2 state law to update the comprehensive master plan for higher education  
3 every four years, in collaboration with Washington's higher education  
4 community; and

5       WHEREAS, The next master plan update is to be presented to the  
6 Legislature and Governor by December 2003; and

7       WHEREAS, Upon the Legislature's adoption of the plan by concurrent  
8 resolution, the master plan becomes the state's higher education policy  
9 unless amended by legislative action; and

10       WHEREAS, To guide the state's higher education policies and  
11 strategies successfully, the master plan must address both short-term  
12 and longer-term fiscal and policy issues; and

13       WHEREAS, Recent discussions, including the December 2002 report on  
14 the higher education coordinating board by the Washington state  
15 institute for public policy, demonstrate the need to strengthen the  
16 connection between the board's agenda and the expectations of the  
17 Legislature; and

18       WHEREAS, It is appropriate to use the development process for the  
19 2004 master plan to reestablish and strengthen the Legislature's

1 involvement in higher education strategic planning and its  
2 communication with the members and staff of the higher education  
3 coordinating board; and

4 WHEREAS, It is also appropriate to consider a revision in the  
5 timeline for preparation of the master plan to ensure that it is fully  
6 integrated with the preparation of institutional and state budgets and  
7 the Legislature's development of future biennial budgets;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the State of  
9 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That the  
10 Legislature form an interim work group of members of the House of  
11 Representatives and Senate higher education and fiscal committees to  
12 work with the higher education coordinating board and its staff between  
13 June and September 2003 to reach consensus on the policy parameters and  
14 priorities of the 2004 master plan for higher education; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the interim work group and the higher  
16 education coordinating board consider advancing the timeline for  
17 publication of the 2004 master plan from December 2003 to June 2004, to  
18 ensure that it provides a timely and relevant framework for development  
19 of future budgets and policy proposals.

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